

HATTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**05/19/2026 – MINUTES**

Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Hileman; Y; Guiette; absent, Farrell; Y, Humphrey; Y; McClain; Y; Guests: 5 guests.

Public Comment on Agenda: No public comments on agenda

Accept or amend Agenda: Motion by Farrell; supported by Humphrey to approve the agenda with amendment to add under Treasurer's Report: address how Mercantile Bank add monthly interest payments from CD's since they no longer are issuing paper checks.

Accept or amend previous month's minutes: Minutes for the Regular Monthly Board meeting of 4/21/26 provided to the Board in advance and made available to the Public. **Motion by Farrell; supported by Humphrey to approve the 4/21/26 meeting minutes; motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance: \$147,101.40

Revenue: \$15,842.40

Expenditure: \$7,166.93

Ending Balance: \$155,776.87

Motion by Farrell; supported by McClain to approve the Treasurer's report as given; motion carried.

Fire fund: Previous Balance: \$28,148.66

Interest: \$28.92

Current balance: \$28,177.58

Treasurer, Humphrey reported that Isabella Bank agreed to match the Members First Credit Union CD rate of 3.60% interest rate on 4 CD's that matured in April and was discussed at the April 2026 regular board meeting.

Motion by Farrell supported by McClain to approve the Treasurer's report as given; motion carried.

Treasurer, Humphrey stated that Mercantile Bank no longer will be issuing monthly checks for interest on CD. **Motion by Farrell supported by McClain to have Mercantile Bank rollover the CD interest back to the CD accounts; motion carried.**

Reports by County Officials: Clare County Commissioner, Jack Kleinhardt

Jack Kleinhardt was not present.

Reports by County Officials: Clare County Road Commissioner, Bill Simpson

- Met with Tom Kunse yesterday in Clare-A bill introducing to suspend gas tax until gas is under \$3.50 per gallon. It looks like it does not have enough support.
- New building is progressing fast. Office and parking garage is close to completely finished. Road going into new building and parking lot should be blacktopped in early June.
- Applying for another soybean oil grant from Michigan Tech.
- Several townships will be having road brining done this week.
- MTA is June 2 at 6:30 pm at Hayes Township Hall subjects: will be ADA websites and mailing.

Planning and Zoning Administration and Blight: Zoning and Blight Administrator, Terry Acton

- Standard nuisance ordinance book codes need to be created so blight tickets can be issued with a nuisance code.- Acton passed out an example nuisance codes from other small townships. Zoning and Blight (nuisance) are totally different. Acton stated that he felt that the township attorney and Planning and Zoning Committee needed to meet soon to make sure things are done correctly.
- Zoning book was done great.
- May want to get township attorney involved.
- Planning and Zoning will need to meet and have a public hearing.

Cemetery and Hall Report: Jeff Smith:

Jeff Smith was absent. Jeff's health has not been good.

Other Officials:Harrison Fire Chief, Barry Wallace, Jr.

- So far this year, Harrison Fire Dept has responded to 197 calls
- 2025, they responded to over 500 calls
- They are responding to some immediate medical calls should an ambulance ETA may be lengthy.
- They have applied for several grants to get new fire equipment and emergency equipment. They are looking for letters of support from township officials.
- Harrison Fire Department has 6 new hires-Doing cadet classes to get high school students and young adults who may be interested in becoming a fire fighter in the future.
- Homeowners insurance may be asked to pay for any grass or brush fires that is started by homeowners.

Motion to pay the bills- \$15,972.22.

Motion by Farrell; supported by Humphrey to approve the May bills; motion carried.

Budget Adjustments

101-257-819 Assessor/Assessor's Contract budgeted \$9,000 current balance -\$959.25

101-466-818 Highway & Streets Contracted Services budgeted \$125,000.00, current balance -\$6,911.00

101-265-930 Township Hall & Grounds Hall Maintenance budgeted \$900.00, current balance -\$484.99

101-266-827 Attorney/Attorney fees zoning budgeted \$600.00, current balance -\$30.00

Motion by Farrell; supported by Humphrey to approve the budget adjustments as stated above; motion carried.

Correspondence: Sheriff and Fire Department reports for April 2026 were received; April 2026 bills totaling \$7,166.93 have been mailed; L-4028 from the County Treasurer's office, Equalization Contract for 2026-27

Training or Other Meetings attended by Board Members:

McClain-Monthly County Clerk's meeting on 4/23/26

Hileman-Data Center and Solar Information meeting in Gladwin on 4/30/26

Old Business:

- Board discussed Data Center Moratorium hopefully will be able to sign at June 16 meeting.
- Clerk McClain applied for the EGLE Scrap Tire Grant in March 2026, and no grant winners have been announced yet.
- The Harrison Fire Department will install the required number of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at the township hall free of charge on May 22, 2026.

New Business:

- Board reviewed the 2026-27 Equalization Contract from the Clare County Treasurer's office. Board selected full-service option #3, which includes preparing, printing, mailing summer and fall tax bills. Cost is \$1,294.50 from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Motion by McClain; supported by Farrell to select full-service option #3 of the 2026-2027 Equalization contract, roll call vote: Hileman; Y, Farrell; Y, Humphrey; Y, McClain; Y, motion carried.

- 2026–2027 Mowing Contract: Due to Jeff Smith's health issues, the board agreed to have Conlay's Power Washing and Lawn Maintenance continue mowing the township hall and cemetery every two weeks until Jeff Smith's plans are known. Conlay's will charge \$70 per mowing at the hall, \$100 per mowing at the cemetery, and \$650 for spring and fall cemetery cleanup.

Motion by Farrell; supported by Humphrey to have Conlay's Power Washing and Lawn Maintenance to continue to mow hall and cemetery and do spring clean up at cemetery until Jeff Smith informs us of his future plans; motion carried.

- Employee Handbook-Clerk is waiting to hear back from HR Mundi, a free service offered and recommended by Par Plan Insurance that would help us develop an employee handbook.
- Discuss buying new fire extinguishers for the township hall-Barry Wallace recommended Summit Fire Suppression. - Clerk McClain will check with them.
- The board set the 2026–2027 budget hearing for Monday, June 15, at 6:00 p.m. Notice will be published in the Clare County Review during the weeks of May 29 and June 5, posted on the township website, and posted on the township hall door.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No Public Comment

Adjournment of Meeting:

- Motion by Farrell supported by Humphrey to adjourn meeting at 8:43 pm; motion carried.
- After the meeting, the board learned with sadness that Trustee William Guiette had passed away.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- **Saturday, June 6, 2026, -10:00-11:30 am Clare County Food Distribution at Clare County Fairgrounds**
- **Monday, June 15, 2026, 6:00 pm 2026-2027 budget meeting**
- **Tuesday, June 16, 2026, regular monthly board meeting at 7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 11:00 am; public accuracy test for August 4, 2026, election**
- **July Board of Review meeting TBD**

Prepared: 5/19/2026 – Not approved: Clerk Linda McClain